

## ON THE OCCURRENCE OF DAUCUS CAROTA IN HAITI

BY NORMAN TAYLOR

During a recent trip to Haïti, a rather remarkable example of the adaptability of our common wild carrot to tropical conditions was noticed at Marmelade, a small town about fifty miles from the north coast. At an approximate elevation of 2,000 feet I found a field very fairly covered with this weed. It was not a case of its recent introduction in corn or hay, as the town is much too far from the sea, and the natives much too poor to import seeds or forage from other countries.

In colonial times, however, a great deal of Indian corn and seeds of all kinds were taken to the island, and it is only in this way that we can plausibly account for the substantial colonization of the plant. It must have maintained itself for a hundred years or more, and I later had evidences of its migratory tendencies. Along a tiny stream which runs very close to the road from Marmelade to San Michel, an occasional plant was noticeable for ten or fifteen miles, until we came out to a xerophytic plain, where all traces of it were lost. It would be interesting, at some future time, to go over this area again and ascertain how far it had spread.

This is not the first time this troublesome weed has been reported from the West Indies, as I find in the herbarium of the New York Botanical Garden a specimen collected at Guadeloupe; Père Duss' *no. 4015*.

With the somewhat unusual occurrence of this *Daucus* in mind I began looking for other northern species, which from previous reports\* might be expected in Haïti, and I was not disappointed. In Marmelade, among what passes for the paving stones of a Haïtian street I found a single plant of *Taraxacum Taraxacum* (L.) Karst. Whether, from the sterility of its environment, the great heat of the sun, or from a combination of these causes, I do not know, but the plant was much stunted,

\* Wilson, P. Some introduced Plants in Cuba. *Torreyia* 4 : 188. 1904.

the scape very short, and the head twisted and otherwise deformed.

I found, also, a normal plant of *Plantago major* L. at Plaisance, at an elevation of about 2,200 feet.

A close watch of the country adjacent to the sea-coast failed to bring to light any of these species, and it would seem that it is only in the comparatively cool air of the mountains that they were able to survive.

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### SHORTER NOTES

TOMOPHAGUS FOR DENDROPHAGUS. — My attention has been kindly called by Mr. C. V. Piper to the fact that the generic name *Dendrophagus*, recently used for a new genus of the Polyporaceae (Bull. Torrey Club, 32: 473. 1905), was assigned by Toumey in 1900 to a slime-mould causing the disease known as "crown-gall" (Bull. Univ. Ariz. Agric. Exper. Sta. 33: 7-64. f. 1-31. 1900). I therefore substitute the name **Tomophagus** for the one preëmpted, with **Tomophagus colossus** (Fr.) as the type.

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THE GRAY POLYPODY IN OHIO. — In the October number of *TORREYA*, in the article "Notes on the Gray Polypody," the author, Ivar Tidestrom, states (p. 175) that "*This is possibly the most northern locality for this fern*" — referring to the station noted by C. L. Pollard, at which place, "near the Potomac River and within fifteen miles of Washington," the plant was found by W. P. Hay.

I have a station for the plant which I take to be a little farther north than that mentioned above. At any rate it may be of sufficient interest to report that this fern was collected in 1900 in the northern part of Adams County (Ohio) at a place called Beayer Pond. I also found plants at the village of Mineral Springs, a short distance from the former locality. In the Ohio State Herbarium we have a specimen collected at Batavia Junction, Hamilton County, by Dr. Byrnes, and one collected at Plainville, close to the preceding station, by Mr. Langden.

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